

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 00384 301632Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 COME-00 EB-08
LAB-04 SIL-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10 OIC-02 /117 W
-----089949 301641Z /53

O R 301542Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2886
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ILO, SW
SUBJ: STRUCTURAL REFORM OF ILO GOVERNING BODY

REF: (A) STATE 23831, (B) GENEVA 1299, (C) STOCKHOLM 0304

1. ACTING LABOR ATTACHE CALLED ON MFA OFFICER IN CHARGE OF
ILO AFFAIRS (KLAS STENSTROM) MORNING OF JANUARY 30 AND PRESENTED
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ARGUMENTS DETAILED IN REFTELS A AND B.

2. INITIAL REACTION TO OUR ARGUMENTS AS FOLLOWS: GOS REMAINS
SOMEWHAT LESS DISTURBED THAN WE REGARDING ENLARGEMENT OF
VOTING GOVERNMENT SEATS. SWEDES BELIEVE THAT SINCE THE 18
DEPUTY MEMBERS ALREADY HAVE RIGHT TO SPEAK IN GB COUNCILS,
GIVING THEM VOTE WILL NOT IMPACT GB'S EFFECTIVENESS OR RENDER

IT ANY MORE UNWIELDY. NEITHER WILL PRESSURES FROM EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS BECOME UNMANAGEABLE, GIVEN PRESENT SYSTEM OF WEIGHTED VOTING UNDER TRIPARTITE STRUCTURE. GOS MORE IMPRESSED WITH ARGUMENTS THAT AFRICA UNDER-REPRESENTED AND ASIA OVER-REPRESENTED UNDER PRESENT EC-9 FORMULA. ALSO EFFECTIVE ARGUMENT FROM GOS STANDPOINT IS TACTICAL ONE, I.E., THAT EC-9 DRAFT MAY CONCEDE TOO MUCH WITHOUT ANY ASSUREDNESS OF SUCCESS.

3. WEAK POINT OF US PROPOSAL FROM SWEDISH PERSPECTIVE IS LIMITED OPPORTUNITY FOR NORDICS TO OBTAIN VOTING SEAT, GIVEN FACT THAT FIVE OF SEVEN PROPOSED BOTING SEATS IN EUROPEAN REGION WOULD BE OCCUPIED BY NON-NORDIC MEMBERS. IF ONE OF THE TWO REMAINING SEATS COULD BE INFORMALLY DESIGNATED A NORDIC SEAT, GOS MIGHT BE MORE FAVORABLY INCLINED TO SUPPORT US. AS US DRAFT NOW READS, GOS SEES ITS INTERESTS PARALLELING THOSE OF G-77 IN SEEKING GREATER REPRESENTATION FOR SMALLER COUNTRIES.

4. MFA SOMEWHAT SURPRISED BY CONTINUED US INTEREST IN DETAILED WORKING OF ILO. THIS INTEREST IS WELCOMED, HOWEVER, IN HOPE IT IS INDICATIVE OF EARLY US RETURN TO ILO. STENSTROM SAID THAT GOS REMAINS IN COMPLETE ACCORD WITH US VIEWS ON POLITICIZATION. ACTING LABOR ATTACHE TOOK OCCASION TO REITERATE THAT US WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR ILO MATTERS MOST CLOSELY WITH A VIEW TO REJOINING AS SOON AS CONDITIONS PERMIT. TO THAT END WE COUNT ON THE HELP OF ALL OUR IMEC FRIENDS, INCLUDING SWEDEN.

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5. COMMENT: MFA PLANS TO CONSULT WITH ITS GENEVA DELEGATION ONCE MORE BEFORE JANUARY 31 MEETING DURING WHICH TIME IT WILL DISCUSS US DEMARCHE. IN MFA VIEW, ONLY CANADA AND JAPAN HAVE THUS FAR WARMED TO US PROPOSALS. GOS UNLIKELY TO BOLT EUROPEAN CONSENSUS BUT MISSION GENEVA MAY WISH TO APPROACH SWEDISH DELEGATION, WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE BROAD DISCRETIONARY POWERS, HIGHLIGHTING THOSE ARGUMENTS WHICH MFA FOUND MOST COGENT. KENNEDY-MINOTT

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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